

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Official Action mailed December 2, 2004.

Petition to Correct Inventorship

Applicants initially note that a Petition to Correct Inventorship was filed on April 9, 2004 to add Daniel Sheinbein as an inventor. That Petition was filed in response to an Office Communication from the Examiner's SPE dated July 18, 2003, in which a previously-filed Petition was deemed deficient. No response to the renewed Petition has been received.

APPLICANTS REQUEST THAT THE NEW PETITION BE ACKNOWLEDGED AND THAT DANIEL SHEINBEIN BE ADDED AS AN INVENTOR.

The Claims

In the present paper, Applicants have amended claims 2-11, and canceled claims 1 and 12-26. Claims 2-11 and 27-34 are now presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner has allowed claims 27-34. Those claims are presented herein in their original form.

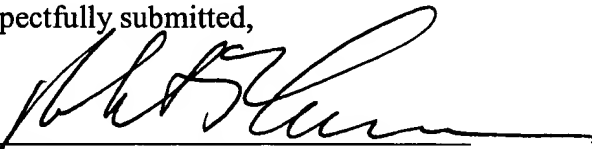
The Examiner has indicated that claim 9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim. In the interest of expediency, claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form, and claims 2-8, 10 and 11 have been amended to change their dependencies to rewritten claim 9. Rejected claims 1 and 12-26 have been canceled without prejudice.

Conclusion

Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claims 2-11 and 27-34 are now in condition for allowance, and earnestly request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present case, the Examiner should not hesitate in contacting the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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